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10/519,811	07/28/2005	Larry Erickson	00270.0079USWO	7621
23552 7590 03/14/2007 MERCHANT & GOULD PC P.O. BOX 2903 MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55402-0903			EXAMINER WORLEY, CATHY KINGDON	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			1638	
SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE		MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE	
31 DAYS		03/14/2007	PAPER	

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

DETAILED ACTION

Election/Restrictions

1. Restriction is required under 35 U.S.C. 121 and 372.

This application contains the following inventions or groups of inventions which are not so linked as to form a single general inventive concept under PCT Rule 13.1.

In accordance with 37 CFR 1.499, applicant is required, in reply to this action, to elect a single invention to which the claims must be restricted.

Group I, claim(s) 1, drawn to a method for isolating a harvest-inducible DNA sequence utilizing a cDNA library.

Group II, claim(s) 3 (in part) or claim 2, drawn to an isolated harvest-inducible cDNA; including a cDNA sequence comprising SEQ ID NO:1, a complement thereof, a fragment thereof, a complement of said fragment, a nucleic acid that hybridizes to SEQ ID NO:1, or a nucleic acid that hybridizes to the complement of SEQ ID NO:1.

Group III, claim(s) 3 (in part) or claim 2, drawn to an isolated harvest-inducible cDNA; including a cDNA sequence comprising SEQ ID NO:2, a complement thereof,

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a fragment thereof, a complement of said fragment, a nucleic acid that hybridizes to SEQ ID NO:2, or a nucleic acid that hybridizes to the complement of SEQ ID NO:2.

Group IV, claim(s) 3 (in part) or claim 2, drawn to an isolated harvest-inducible cDNA; including a cDNA sequence comprising SEQ ID NO:3, a complement thereof, a fragment thereof, a complement of said fragment, a nucleic acid that hybridizes to SEQ ID NO:3, or a nucleic acid that hybridizes to the complement of SEQ ID NO:3.

Group V, claim(s) 4-5, drawn to a method for isolating a harvest inducible regulatory element utilizing genomic DNA sequences.

Group VI, claim(s) 7 (in part) and claims 6, 8-13, 22, and 25-26, drawn to a harvest-inducible regulatory element; including an element comprising SEQ ID NO:4, a complement thereof, a fragment thereof, a complement of said fragment, a nucleic acid that hybridizes to SEQ ID NO:4, or a nucleic acid that hybridizes to the complement of SEQ ID NO:4; and to a construct, a vector, and a plant comprising said element.

Group VII, claim(s) 7 (in part) and claim 6, 8-13, 23, and 25-26, drawn to a harvest-inducible regulatory element; including an element comprising SEQ ID NO:5, a complement thereof, a fragment thereof, a complement of said fragment, a nucleic

acid that hybridizes to SEQ ID NO:5, or a nucleic acid that hybridizes to the complement of SEQ ID NO:5; and to a construct, a vector, and a plant comprising said element.

Group VIII, claim(s) 7 (in part) and claim 6, 8-13, and 24-26, drawn to a harvest-inducible regulatory element; including an element comprising SEQ ID NO:6, a complement thereof, a fragment thereof, a complement of said fragment, a nucleic acid that hybridizes to SEQ ID NO:6, or a nucleic acid that hybridizes to the complement of SEQ ID NO:6; and to a construct, a vector, and a plant comprising said element.

Groups IX-XI, claim(s) 14-21, drawn to a method for production of a heterologous protein in a plant by transforming a plant with a construct comprising a specific harvest-inducible promoter; wherein the specific harvest inducible promoter for groups IX-XI is the promoter of groups VI-VIII, respectively.

2. The inventions listed as Groups I-XI do not relate to a single general inventive concept under PCT Rule 13.1 because, under PCT Rule 13.2, they lack the same or corresponding special technical features for the following reasons:

The technical feature linking groups I-XI is a harvest-inducible gene or a fragment thereof. Cramer et al. teach a harvest-inducible gene (see Figure 15 and Table 3) (Cramer et al. US Patent No. 5,670,349, issued on Sept. 23, 1997.) Therefore, the technical feature linking the inventions of groups I-XI does not constitute a special technical feature as defined by PCT Rule 13.2 as it does not define a contribution over the prior art.

Accordingly, Groups I-XI are not so linked by the same or a corresponding special technical feature as to form a single general inventive concept.

3. Applicant is advised that the reply to this requirement to be complete must include (i) an election of a species or invention to be examined even though the requirement be traversed (37 CFR 1.143) and (ii) identification of the claims encompassing the elected invention.

The election of an invention or species may be made with or without traverse. To reserve a right to petition, the election must be made with traverse. If the reply does not distinctly and specifically point out supposed errors in the restriction requirement, the election shall be treated as an election without traverse.

Should applicant traverse on the ground that the inventions or species are not patentably distinct, applicant should submit evidence or identify such evidence now of record showing the inventions or species to be obvious variants or clearly

admit on the record that this is the case. In either instance, if the examiner finds one of the inventions unpatentable over the prior art, the evidence or admission may be used in a rejection under 35 U.S.C.103(a) of the other invention.

4. Applicant is reminded that upon the cancellation of claims to a non-elected invention, the inventorship must be amended in compliance with 37 CFR 1.48(b) if one or more of the currently named inventors is no longer an inventor of at least one claim remaining in the application. Any amendment of inventorship must be accompanied by a request under 37 CFR 1.48(b) and by the fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(i).

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Cathy K. Worley whose telephone number is (571) 272-8784. The examiner is on a variable schedule but can normally be reached on M-F 10:00 - 4:00 with additional variable hours before 10:00 and after 4:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Anne Marie Grunberg, can be reached on (571) 272-0975. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

CKW

CYNTHIA COLLINS
PRIMARY EXAMINER

Cynthia Collins
3/5/07